

Family History

Favonius Gaius Facilis

He was a great man, father and farmer. Beloved by the people in the town (before it was known as Skidrome). He married Lucia Julia, the medicum's daughter, when she was 13 and he was 27. They had 3 beautiful boys, and as is custom named the first son with the praenomen Favonius. He died before his youngest son (Lucius Publius) was born. Favonius Gaius died at 32 years old from a vicious disease in the early autumn¹.

Favonius Publius Facilis

The eldest of 3 sons, he was the *paterfamilias* at the very young age of 4, when Favonius Gaius died. His mother, Lucia Julia, was pregnant at this time and so wrote to her family asking for help with the children and the farm. They sent two slaves to help raise Favonius Publius and Gaius Caracalla, in the absence of a father. It was a rough time for the family, until Favonius Publius was 15 and he enrolled in the Roman military, for the purpose of sending money back home. Unfortunately, he was killed before he completed the standard 16 years of service that would grant him a pension².

Gaius Caracalla Facilis

He was the second son of Favonius Gaius and Lucia Julia, so he never expected to be the *paterfamilias*. Yet when Favonius Publius left home to join the army, 14-year-old Gaius Caracalla became the man of the house. He is named as such because he had a striking resemblance to Caracalla³. He was described by family and friends as a gentle giant. He was not very smart, and certainly did not receive any education from the poor family he grew up in. He was perfectly content to only take care of the farm. Once Gaius Caracalla had grown into a man, his mother pressured him to marry, in order to perform his role of *paterfamilias* and carry on the Facilis line. He married Marcia Vela, who had a Roman father called Marcus Tacitus Tesitanus, who was fairly rich and bore the face of a famous historian Tacitus, hence his name⁴. It was strange that Marcus Tesitanus would marry off his daughter to a poor farmer, until after the marriage the secret came out. Marcia Vela was born of an Etruscan mother, a freed slave! It was quite the scandal, and poor Lucia Julia died of a broken heart⁵. Despite her scandalous birthright, Marcia Vela and Gaius Caracalla seemed very happy together, even in love perhaps. They had 3 beautiful children: Favonius

¹ Shaw, 113. Diseases were most deadly in early autumn.

² Hamblin, 346.

³ I used a picture of Caracalla's statue for this family member in the family tree.

⁴ His picture in the family tree is a statue of Tacitus. There's a theme here.

⁵ She had a heart attack when she heard the news. She was pretty old at this point.

Hadrianus⁶, Faustus Gaius and Marcia Julia. Gaius Caracalla and Marcia Vella died peacefully in their sleep, one month apart from each other.

Favonius Hadrianus Facilis

Favonius Hadrianus was the only one in the family thus far to have a good, solid education. He liked to run a very tight household, which was necessary with 4 children. He got married very young for a man, at 19 years old to Julia Tertia. Julia Tertia was the third daughter in her family, so aptly named Tertia. She was married off fairly quickly by her masonry family and very much enjoyed the quieter life and cleaner air by the farm. She seems to be blessed by Bona Dea with her high fertility⁷. Favonius Hadrianus and Julia Tertia in fact had five children, but sadly the fourth child, a daughter, died soon after she was born. Julia wanted to pay homage to her dead daughter, and so they named their fifth child Quintus, meaning five. Their children are as follows, in order of birth: Favonius Aurelius, Marcus Gaius, Publia Julia and Quintus Favonius. When Favonius Aurelius and Marcus Gaius were 15 and 13 years old, they were both interested in the prettiest girl in Skidrome. Their infatuation turned into rage at one another until one fateful day in the gymnasium. Favonius Aurelius and Marcus Gaius both picked up swords and stabbed each other simultaneously. Favonius Aurelius struck his brother directly in the heart, so Marcus Gaius died instantly. Favonius Aurelius had not been stabbed in any vital organs, but nonetheless, 3 days later he died from the infection he gained from his wound. Thus, Quintus Favonius sadly became the only son remaining. Julia Tertia was heartbroken, now having lost 3 of her 5 children. She remained in bed for weeks until she died of starvation. Favonius Hadrianus lived a very long time, long enough to see his first grandson, Favonius Facilis born. He passed away peacefully from old age.

Bibliography:

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⁶ Also named Hadrianus for his resemblance to not yet existing Hadrian (used his statue picture in the family tree).

⁷ Adkins & Adkins, 258.